Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of diagnosing or predicting susceptibility to a clinical subtype of Crohn's disease characterized by fibrostenosing disease independent of small bowel involvement, comprising:

determining the presence or absence in an individual of a fibrostenosis-predisposing allele ~~linked to a NOD2/CARD15 locus~~, wherein said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele is an insertion of a G at position 248 of SEQ ID NO:5 or an insertion of a C at position 294 of SEQ ID NO:6 (SNP 13),

wherein the presence of said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele is diagnostic of or predictive of susceptibility to the clinical subtype of Crohn's disease characterized by fibrostenosing disease independent of small bowel involvement.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim **[[3]]** 1, wherein NF-kappa B activation by a NOD2/CARD15 polypeptide encoded by said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele is reduced as compared to NF-kappa B activation by a wild-type NOD2/CARD15 polypeptide.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele is associated with said clinical subtype of Crohn's disease characterized by fibrostenosing disease independent of small bowel involvement with an odds ratio of at least 2 and a lower 95% confidence limit greater than 1.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a report indicating the presence or absence in said individual of said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a report indicating the presence or absence in said individual of said clinical subtype of Crohn's disease characterized by fibrostenosing disease independent of small bowel involvement.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the presence or absence of said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele comprises enzymatic amplification of nucleic acid from said individual.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said amplification is polymerase chain reaction amplification.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said polymerase chain reaction amplification is performed using one or more fluorescently labeled probes.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein said polymerase chain reaction amplification is performed using one or more probes comprising a DNA minor ~~grove~~ groove binder.

23. (Currently amended) A method of optimizing therapy in an individual, comprising:

(a) determining the presence or absence in said individual of a fibrostenosis-predisposing allele ~~linked to a NOD2/CARD15 locus~~, wherein said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele is an insertion of a G at position 248 of SEQ ID NO:5 or an insertion of a C at position 294 of SEQ ID NO:6 (SNP 13),

(b) diagnosing individuals in which said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele is present as having a fibrostenosing subtype of Crohn's disease, and

(c) treating said individual having a fibrostenosing subtype of Crohn's disease based on said diagnosis.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele is associated with said clinical subtype of Crohn's disease characterized by fibrostenosing disease independent of small bowel involvement with an odds ratio of at least 2 and a lower 95% confidence limit greater than 1.

25. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising generating a report indicating the presence or absence in said individual of said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele.

26. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising generating a report indicating the presence or absence in said individual of said clinical subtype of Crohn's disease characterized by fibrostenosing disease independent of small bowel involvement.

27. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein determining the presence or absence of said fibrostenosis-predisposing allele comprises enzymatic amplification of nucleic acid from said individual.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein said amplification is polymerase chain reaction amplification.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said polymerase chain reaction amplification is performed using one or more fluorescently labeled probes.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said polymerase chain reaction amplification is performed using one or more probes comprising a DNA minor groove binder.